Humboldt County Historical Society
Old Timer Interview with ~~Okin~~ Haakon Hanson

Indexed by Jeanne Best   Haakon   Time: — 45 minutes

Index No.   Subject

0.00 – 0.60   Came to Eureka in 1905 for a week's visit
              with aunt, Mrs. Barry — Formerly Mrs Christopherson(sp?)
              whose husband was a captain on the Fidelity.
              He died in 1890 at sea.
              Liked Eureka and stayed. Worked at Vance
              Hotel for many years. "A first class hotel."
              Okin was a waiter. Description of hotel.

0.61 – 0.90   Description of people staying at hotel; mostly
              lumbermen, some business men. Worked there about
              5 years, including during earthquake in 1906.
              Events surrounding earthquake described.

0.91 – 1.04   After leaving Vance Hotel, Okin traveled,
              worked for Southern Pacific, then returned to
              Eureka for his future wife.

1.05 – 1.17   Worked at Albany Restaurant. Many firemen
              were patrons.

1.18 – 1.37   Bought his own place, the Mercantile Restaurant
              located at 2nd and "D" Streets.

1.38 – 1.54   Irish police force named and described in detail
              in connection with visiting his restaurant.

1.55 – 1.87   In 1918 he sold out and took a trip to Alaska.
              Trip described. He was engineer on boat 9 months.
              People here named who constituted company.
              Company still in business at time of interview.

Okin Hanson interview cont'd.

1.88 - 2.07   After fishing trip Okin worked in a mill
on Broadway. Then bought in to
American Bakery with a partner. Supplies
brought in by railroad (1924).

2.08 - 2.35   40-year anniversary, at time of interview, since
Corona went ashore. Mr. Hanson recalls event,
visit to ship, etc. Life lost = one man.

2.36 - 2.47   On Kilbourne (sp.?) for awhile. Description of
ship's burning while working there.

2.48 - 2.78   1910. Visiting singers described. Two concerts
at Pavillion Hotel; about 300 people involved.
Incidents recalled. Singers mostly Norwegian
and came from San Francisco, Los Angeles,
Portland and Seattle.

2.79 - 2.90   Difficulty between Norwegians & Swedes related.

2.91 - 3.13   1933-34, "Hard times". Worked at Franklin
School and is still employed in school system at
time of interview.

3.14 - 3.23   Owned bakery with partner; description of
bakery ....

(here tape ends abruptly)